

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 INR-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 EUR-08 L-01 EB-03 RSC-01 /046 W

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R 251400Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9879

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BLANTRE

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 8998

LIMDIS

BLANTYRE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV AO FR

SUBJECT: RUMORED FRENCH AID TO CABINDA LIBERATION MOVEMENT

1. WITHIN PAST TEN DAYS WE HAVE HEARD REPORTS THAT FRENCH ARE NOW PLAYING ACTIVE HAND IN CABINDA. CHARGES VARY BUT COMMON ELEMENT SEEMS TO BE THAT FRENCH EITHER DIRECTLY OR WORKING THROUGH PRESIDENT BONGO OF BABON ARE NOW HELPING FINANCE BRAZZAVILLE FLEC AND ARE PROVIDING TRAINING. ONE VERSION HAS IT THAT SOME FLEC ORGANIZERS ARE BEING TRAINED AT FRENCH EXPENSE IN EUROPE. MOTIVES FOR ALL THIS ARE OBSCURE BUT SOME OF OUR SOURCES HINT AT OIL POLITICS.

2. AMONG RUMORS WE HAVE HEARD ARE (A) THAT GISCARD

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HIMSELF CONCERTED PLANS WHEN BONGO WAS RECENTLY IN

PARIS, (B) THAT MAJOR COORDINATING MEETING WAS HELD EARLIER THIS MONTH IN LIBREVILLE IN PRESENCE OF THE FAMOUS (OR INFAMOUS) JACQUES FOCCART, WHO HAD REPUTATION OF BEING MR. AFRICA FOR FRENCH INTELLIGENCE, AND (C) THAT FRENCH WORKING WITH CONGO BRAZZAVILLE HAD ROLE IN MAJOR RAOUL'S ALLEGED RETURN TO CABINDA FROM BRUSSELS WHERE HE REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN CONGO AMBASSADOR TO EEC.

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM AND I HAVE DISCUSSED THESE RUMORS, NOTING THERE IS APPARENTLY AS YET NO CONFIRMATION FROM SOURCES NOT CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH ZAIRE GOVERNMENT. OBVIOUSLY IF LIBREVILLE OR PARIS HAVE OR CAN DISCREETLY FIND OUT ANYTHING ABOUT THESE ALLEGATIONS, IT WOULD BE WORTH KNOWING.
HINTON

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